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Morning, Evening and Sunday 50

The Speaker and His Party. The recalcitrant gentleman is about the absolute management of the House. ment. He wishes that Mr. McKinley or Mr. Hanna or somebody else of sufficient power had only suggested that he and they should go into a coalition together to defeat Mr. Reed's aspirations for the Speakership. Now the recalcitrant memher of the House wonders why Mr. Reed frowns upon any suggestion that the Republican Representatives have a caucus to decide what they shall do. Naturally the Speaker regards such a proposition as abourd. He himself will decide what the House will do.

But there is unquestionably an influ ence to which the Czur is amenable. He has called upon the President, and it is not denied that the Czar and Mr. Hanna are good enough friends. Of course, Mr. Dingley does not represent, as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, the Speaker of the House alone. He repre sents the Administration, and he is work ing for it with an industry, if not a fidel ity, that will cause his particular friends to smile with a giec that is truly ghoulish It is even believed that the Speaker is throwing aside for the moment all other business. Surely he is working as he never worked before to push the Dingley bill along, whether he deems it a good thing or not.

The Speaker will not be without his recompense. His friend Milliken will doubtless be appointed collector of customs at Portland, and the report is also credible that the delegates to the St. Louis convention, who were pugnacion for Reed and true to him, will be well taken care of.

Rules for Officeseekers.

We applied the efforts of Secretary Por ter to shut off the White House spellbinder, and we hope that Mr. Porter's coldblooded announcement that speeches which officeseckers make for themselves, or induce others to make for them, won't help them any, will have a salutary effect in all the departments and Government bureaus where, of course, the office-seeking spellbinder holds forth with all of his noise and in some of his glory.

We have always believed that it is capable of mathematical proof that three-quar ters of the persons who seek anything whether in politics or in business, actually talk themselves out of what they want by talking too much or by talking badly. Let the officescekers remember in the first place that it is they, and not the appointing power, who are asking the favors. Let them be polite and brief, then, so as not to annoy the appointing power. Let them state their business completely and then go. To state it completely does not mean that they must state it at length. Let then say just enough.

These few simple rules also apply to any every-day business proposition. Every man is hard at work, or ought to be, and his mind is alort and inquisitive. Sometimes be knows before you enter just what you are after. Do not worry him, then, with details that are worse than unimportant. State your business and go. If you propose something that will be advantageous to him, you may be sure he will not forget it. The same is true of the President or the Cabinet officer. They are going to prefer you not because you yourself want comething very badly, but because it is advantageous in some way that they should want you.

The Illness of the Kniser.

To put the matter in its most charitable light, it is impossible to read the reports that from time to time, have come from Berlin in regard to the health of the German Emperor, and avoid the conclusion that his majesty is at times at least, mentally irresponsible. Strange as some of his actions have appeared in connection with matters of state policy, as, for example, his vindictive treatment of his sister, the wife of Crown Prince Constantine, they might be considered as having reason, if not excuse, in political consederations. But when the imperial master of a great military power deseends to such amusements as ninching the noses of his generals and courtiers. and tripping them up with his sword. there surely is reason for considering such conduct as eccentricity verging on mad-

There is a terrible affliction hereditary in the reigning branch of the Hohenzollern family, which, report has it, was brought to it by the Empress Augusta, who inherited it from the Emperor Paul, of Russia. It attacked the throat of the Kniser's father, Frederick, and killed him. It is said to survive in the present Emperor, in the painful disease of the car and head, from which he has suffered for years. European diplomatic gossip describes him as practically insane at times If that be true, his reign must soon come to an end. The family institutes and the imperial constitution prohibit occupancy of the throne by a Hobenzoliera suffering from an incurable disease. The late Emperor came very near the point of losing his succession on that account. Only the strenuous exertion of favorable report of an eminent London made it possible for him to sehis reign of a few weeks, and thus give his devoted wife the title and prestige

of an empress. And at that time it wa viciely charged that his son, now Kaise Vilhelm, was conspiring actively with Prince Bismarck to have him passed over. and himself declared successor of the old Emperor Wilhelm I.

There is too much reason for suspecting that the story was true, and that i sadly embittered the last days of the excellent Frederick. Let us be mcreiful and attribute such unfilial conduct to the ungovernable workings of a mind already diseased. The end of it all may come fast enough for him. The kings and prince of the German states have had their patience sorely tried already; they will not stand much more, and it need not surprise anyone to hear within the next few weeks or months that a regency has been declared under Prince Henry, with a constitutional council representing the ninor sovereigns. A movement like that might lead to better things for Germany in the way of a pacific foreign policy, and a egain who objects very strongly to reduced tendency to strain the constitu-Speaker Reed's high-handed behavior in tion in the direction of personal govern

Mr. Hanna's Chance.

The Times has given itself the pleasure several times of late of patting the Hon. Mark Hanna approvingly on the shoulder. We have animadverted pleasantly to his saveir faire and also to his sang-froid; and we have repeatedly urged upon him the propriety of taking the Senate in hand and causing it to do something. We repeat now our former statement that the Senate was never more in need of a leader than now. It has its shining lights, of course the peppery Chandler, the statesman-like Allison, the pedantic Hoar, but it has not a hustling gentleman who hovers about the area ways and the cloak rooms making sure that the House is packed in favor of the Speaker before the Speaker speaks.

We call attention to the fact that Mr. Hanna's satisfaction, if he were to succeed in organizing the Republicans in the Senate, could never be so great as now. There are new Republican Senators to be seated. Will be seat them? There is a tariff bill coming over from the House. It is an administration bill. Will Mr. Hanna be able to drag it out of the Senate in such condition that Mr. Dingley will recognize it? Mr. Hanna, as well as Mr. McKinley, is a bimetallist at heart. Will the Republican chairman force the requisite number of foreign powers by the intervention of the Senate, to recognize the advantages of bimetallism to this country? We pause, as we have been pausing a long time, for a reply.

Flood and Famine.

As predicted by this journal, the floods in the Western and Southern regions subject to overflow by the great rivers have increased in seriousness, and today seem to attain the proportions of a pational calamity. The Arkansas levees have begon to break, and a large area of country already is under water. With still a vast volume of flood coming down from the far North, it is impossible to say whether these breaks may prove sufficient materially to relieve pressure upon the levees lower down the Mississippi; but there is reason to fear they will not, and that the worst phase of the situation has not been reached. We may expect to hear of sad things yet from Memphis to the Port Ends, including danger, if not damage, to New Orleans

The conditions are serious enough to have occasioned calls for aid from the citizens of several inundated places, and the necessity for organized assistance, for noney and relief stores, will doubtless develop soon over a wide expanse of terriory. The year 1897, which was to have been a smilling period of piping peace and coddling concord, under arbitration and the tariff, is evoling wars, famines, pestilences, floods, agitations, distresses and miseries, until one would imagine that somebody had bought l'andora's box at an unclaimed baggage sale, and dumped its con ents on a helpless world all at ence.

A Championship Disagreement.

There are champions and ex-champion in walks of life quite outside of the fistic ring. Some of their methods are of the sort in vogue among professors of the manly art, but these are of the vocal rather than of the physical kind.

For many long years Dr. Hamilton was surgeon general of the Marine Hospital Service, with headquarters at Washington. Suddenly be developed the occidental fever and succeeded in having his friend Dr Wyman put in his place, himself taking a subordinate position in Chicago. Now he wants Dr. Wyman's scalp, and is talking and panipleteering against that worthy

This family misunderstanding is to be de plored, especially at a time when, on account of devastation by floods in the West and South, the best and most harmonious work of the whole service might be of importance. But if it is to be continued. possibly to public detriment and certainly to public annoyance, people will again be come curious as to the real reasons and motives Dr. Hamilton had at the beginning for giving up so good a thing and seeking the comparatively reclusive retirement of the Windy City.

Possibly time, the destroying angel or the emigration instinct may have removed some or all of the causes, and now he might like to have his old job; but, all things con sidered, these individual wars among officials, particularly between such as have formerly together nestled in a syndicated attitude under the wing of friendship, are not often productive of much except scan dal of one sort or another.

Interior Blissfulness

We trust there may be nothing in the re bort that Secretary Bliss has determined in a Christian spirit of resignation, to leave the Cabinet thus early in the grand era of trust prosperity said to be about to brenk over the country. Such action after only a few days of office, would be nearly, if not quite, unprecedented. In the Cabinet just before this one, minister who considered themselves just as great and dignified as Mr. Biss, did not resign lomatic pressure by England, and the Even after being treated to Executive per sonal abuse, couched in the choicest imager of the Buffalo penochle club, and having had palace doors slammed in their faces

It is true, in time, some of them did re-

tire, but not in consequence of little things like that, and it is to be hoped, with the examples before him, that Mr. Bliss will think twice before returning to his con stituents in Wall Street with a pout upon is expressive countenance.

As the demigod of those constituent very justly has observed: "Public office is a public trust." None of the advan tages of a trust, whether public or pri vate-and there is great community of in terest between the two varieties at pres ent-should lightly be surrendered. Mr Bliss should reflect that his personal feel: ings ought always to be sacrificed to con siderations connected with his trust.

The Blockade of Crete.

The blockade of Crete has commenced with many appropriate incidents. The original mission of the sextette concert warships was to protect the Christians A large body of these is cut off from food or other supplies on the peninsula of Aksotiri by the Turks on one side and the admirals on the other. The latter refuse to allow the landing of anything to eat. This is the European notion of protection to Christians incident to preserving the "integrity of the Ottoman empire."

But it seems that England has been forced to kick over the concert traces, in the matter of blockading the Grecian coasts, and the other powers hardly will indertake it without her co-operation. Here is the first definite victory of public opinion in Great Britain, and a most encouraging sign. Evidently it has caused a marked shortening of continental horns and now we begin to hear of the probable withdrawal of all the Turkish troops from Crete and the appointment of Prince George as governor. In that program, presumed to be pressed by Lord Salisbury. there really would be a "modus vivendi" that might avert war. But nobody can tell how the kaleidoscope may turn within

The Spanish butcher, Weyler, is said to be suffering from an ulcerated throat and dysentery. His physicians will not allow him to take the field. Friends of liberty and humanity will humbly hope for the

If Secretary Sherman really believes in the assurance of the Spanish government that the Ruiz investigation will be full and fair, his credulty is worthy of a place in the National Museum after he gets through with it

A good conscience is better protection in the White House than an army of Pinkertons without one.

There are some excellent little jobs in the Indian appropriation bill. It is not remark able, therefore, that debate upon it was short

If the Democratic Senators propose complete complacency in the matter of the tariff, what do they expect to gain ty noking out on Appropriation Committee seats. In short, is there to be a fight or only a cake walk?

In case Mr. Brady could get Prof. Co. bett to look at those kinetoscope pictures for a little while, it is probable that the latter would let his share go for a good deal less than \$100,000.

Apparently credible reports have been received of the death of President Cisne os, of the Cuban republic. He was a pure patriot, an accomplished and distinguished man and statesman, who surrendered wealth, luxury and a high title of nobility o devote himself to the cause of his people Before the war President Cisneros was known as the Marquis of Santa Lucia.

The Senate will devote most of its leisure this week to consideration of the ed entangling arbitration alliance with Great Britain; and probably Richard Olney is chuckling to think that "the evil that mer. do lives after them."

Mr. W. E. Curtis, formerly chief of the Bureau of American Republics, and a good Republican, considers that the reciprocity pretensions of the Dingley bill are humbug They are not more so than the remaining features.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Col. John Hay can talk five languages but can he climb a step-ladder?

"Mr. Wititterly says he always stood at the head of his class "Ithink he must have had a private tutor."

Our situation would indeed by grave, if the coffin trust should make dying too expensive.

The peace of Europeis in the hands of the Kaiser, and Europe seems to be afraid that ie will drop it.

He was a young man in evening dress, and dejection was plainly written upon

"What's the matter, De Ruyter, old oy?" queried a sympathetic friend. "The matter is"-and De Ruyter heaved heavy sigh-"that when I was young and callow-brained I wrote verses. I never could get them to make a hit; they wer very seldom printed, though it nearly broke my heart that they weren't. Then I got cynical, and went into the diplomatic serv ice, and now, when I have received the hip to one of the most important of the four quarters of the globe, those nursery songs come up to plague

What's in a name? Sometimes there's a dintment in it, if it begins

me, and they are being reprinted from on

Hon. Ki Gudger and Hon. Squinch Curd are doing right to come out of obscurity names were not thoroughly appreciated.

Thepis Barnstormer-I wish some ghost would come from the dead to tell me what would make this play go. Hamlet Cabbagehead-Well, unless the host does walk the play will go -off the

"This newspaper statement won't hurt you," said his friend, confidentially, "Just wait till I get after them. I'll make 'em retract.

"Yes," said the local politic un, sadly, "but they scareheaded the statement, and they'll set the retraction in nonpe

The Rest Cure Mr. Henpeck-Doctor, my wif you have advised her to go to the seaside or two months Physician-Yes

Mr. Henpeck -Do you think she

Continued from First Page

wood which they raised in 1892, in exces of what they raised in 1896-97, as well as nearly 10 cents per pound in price, involving a loss to them of nearly \$30,-000,000 per annum already on this one farm product, and our manufacturers and their workmen lost a market not only for the goods which increased foreign imports had supplanted, but also a market for goods which the farmers and masses the people were able to purchase in 1893 but which they could not buy in 1896 because of a loss of employment and pur

Beyond this it has been demonstrated that placing wool on the free list to the injury of the farmer and manufacturer, we have not been thereby enabled to increase our exports of manufactures of wool (as was claimed would be the case), and we have greatly increased the use of shoddy by minishing the parchasing power of the masses and thus compelling them to seek the cheapest cloths

If it be claimed that this has reduced the cost of clothing to the people, the reply is obvious, that it has done so only in appearance because in point of fact the asses deprived of work and wages by that has given foreign manufacturers the so large a part of our goods, have found it harder'to buy their clothing than they did before.

Profiting by this experience, the Ways and Means Committee, in framing the per ing bill, have taken wool from the free list, where it was so enjustly placed by the present tariff, and have restored it to the dutiable list at the same rate as it for in the tariff of 1880; and have also restored the same compensary duties or manufactures of wool as provided by that act in order to place the manufacturer of wool on the same basis as to his material as his foreign competitor was given by the latter act-as is always necessary in order to provide a market for our domesti wool. To this has been added in a partly specific form, deties practically equivalent to the an valerem duties imposed by both the tariff of 1890 and 1894, as a pre tection to the wool manufacturers,

This, it is believed, will greatly aid the wool-grower, stop the further deflection of our flocks, and presently regain what we have lost in the past four years, and citimately result in the home production of nearly all the clothing wool that we re quiure. It will also greatly encourage the wool manufacturing industries, which have soffered so severely under the tariff of 1894. At the same time we will ultimately increase the revenue from daties n wool and woolens not less than \$25,-000,000 per annum.

on sugar has also been in creased, both for purpose of revenue and dso to encourage the production of sugar in the United States, and thereby give to or farmers a new and much-needed cro We now pay foreign countries about \$84,-000,000 for imported sugar, not withstane ing the abnormally low price, and this sur will soon be increased to \$100,000,000. The success which has attended the growing of sugar beets and the production of beet sugar in California and Nebraska in the past five years, not to mention the progress in the production of cane sugar in Louisiana, has made the problem of producing our own sugar no longer doubtful, and now that we must have the increased revenue from sugar for the present, a favorable opportunity presents itself, giving this boon to our agriculture.

The duty on sugar proposed is specific ecording to polariscopic test of the degre of seccharine matter, commencing at cent per pound for sugar polarizing n more than 75 degrees, and increasing the duty three-one-hundredths of a cent fo each additional degree. This would make the duty on raw sugar of the same polar iscopic test as refined sugar (100 de grees, one and three-fourths cents. this is added one eletith of one cent for such sugar above No. 16 Dutch standars in color (refined sugar), making the duty one cent and eighty-seven and a half hun dredths; this eighth, with whatever may b added by the countervalling duty on all sugar imported from export-bounty-pay ing countries, as the protection which, it is believed, will maintain the refining industry here, (not with standing the present differential one-eighth and a 40 per centail-round duty is double that proposed

This will be the only differential betw raw and refined sugar, because if the re finer uses sugar of less saccharine strengt than 100, as he must, it requires proper ionally more of such sugar to make pound of refined sugar.

An increase has been made in the duty on flax and hemp, as well as jute and coanufactures thereof, to practically the same as that borne by cotton goods, both increases the revenue for the time being and ultimately to develop the linen man; facture here. From the evidence before the committee we are persuaded that the time has come for a gradual development of both flax culture and flax manufacture in this country, which has been possible only to a limited extent in coarse articles un der prior low duties. Specimens of goods from Minnesota flax are exhibited, which seem to give a pursuance of a new evelopment in this direction.

For the most part otherwise the increasof duties in the pending bill to the figures of the tariff of 1890 have been in the chedules or paragraphs covering luxuries like tobacco, liquors, silks, laces, etc. which being articles of voluntary con tion, are always regarded as objects which will bear the highest duties. The exceptions are the eartenware and glass schedule the agricultural schedule, on which th duties have been placed the same as in the act of 1890, because no other rates seemed to be protective.

iron and steel schedule, excepas to some advance products, has not been changed from the present law, because their schedule seemed to be one of the two of the present law, which are differentialed from most of the others and made in the main productive. Thus iron ore pig iron, steel rails, structural iron, and st other forms of common iron and steel remain in the pending bill as fixed in the tariff of 1894. Tin plate, whose manu facture was so successfully established under the tariff of 1890 by the duty of 2 1-5 cents, has been increased from the 1 1-5 cents duty of the present law to 1 1-2 as protective as the higher rate of 1890 essfully accomplished.

The same is true of the cotton schedul which has been left as was placed in the act of 1894 for the most part, with some needed advances on fine goods.

In all the other schedules the rates pro posed in the pending bill are between the ates of the tariff of 1890, and the present

free list of the tariff of 1894 to the dutiable list of the proposed bill, not only wool, lumber, salt, burlaps, bags, cottor bagging and cotton ties, which never have been made non-dutiable, bu le, paintings and statuary, straw orna ments, etc., which, under existing con ditions, ought to contribute something toward the much-needed additional reve

So far as possible the aim has been to avoid exclusively the advalorem duties or crticles which have been notoriously und valued and thus failed to pay the duties in tended—a loss of revenue which has been more serious than ever under the present tariff, in which, outside of the metal and cotton schedule, almost exclusively ad valorem rates prevail. The better class of

porters have united with manufacturers and administrators of the law in asking for this. Piece-goods in the silk schedule and some embroideries have for the first time been given exclusively specific rates-desideratum which was earnestly recon-

are impracticable because of the

been devised which so

of the act of 1890

isfactory

per cent.

but the duty is still 30 cents.

mended by both Secretaries Manning are cases where exclusively ad valorem dutie character of goods, compound duties have valorem feature as to take away a large part of the inducement to undervalue.

While it is difficult to compare the rates of tariff almost entirely ad valorem a bill whose rates are so largely specific as the pending measure, yet the fact that very few duties in this bill are higher than oss and expense to the Governmen those of the act of 1890, and nearly all outside of the few schedules referred to are lower, and that two important schedules are for the most part the same as the duties of the present law clearly show that the actual average rates of the proposed bill are lower than those of the tariff of 1893 and some higher than of the vessels. present tariff-notwithstanding the aver-Hichborn, reputed the best naval age per centum ad valorem duty urde the pending bill on the present reduced prices, will appear to be higher than the present law, and a little higher than that

of vessels sheathed, without avail. Per centum averages are olways misleading when estimated on changed basis. Thus a duty of 50 per cent imposed on an imported article valued at 50 cents abroad plans of the Bureau of Construction and Reand 90 cents here, making 30 cents the difference of cost of production, becomes a waterproof and preservative paints, which duty of 60 per cent when the foreign and estic cost are each reduced 10 cents. entirely inadequate as preservers.

Again different specific or compound duties imposed by lines of value always give a rich opportunity for juggling with he percentages. For example, if a duty of 75 cents is mposed on an article valued between \$1 and \$2, and 75 cents on the same kind of article valued above \$2, and so on fo higher lipes, then the uncandid perceptage manifestator, shutting her eyes to the fact that the importer will adapt his goods so as to fall but slightly below the lines erected, proceeds to declare that a duty of over 70 per cent has been placed on an article valued at \$1.05, when as a matter of fact goods anywhere near \$1 will come in under the 75 cents duty will be those valued at about \$2; so that is point of fact the actual duty is less than It is because of these facts that it has

been found difficult to compare rates under two tariffs so different in charac ter by equivalent ad valorems, so as to make the comparison acceptable or sat The average ad valorem of dutiable schedules under the act of 1890, on the basis of imports of 1893, was 491-2 per cent, and with the lower prices of 1896, it would have been at least 53 per cent. But this was with sugar on the free list, and liquors 7 per cent less than in the proposed bill. If sugar and liquors had borne the same duties as under the act of 1890, and prices had been as low in 1893 as in 1896, the average duty under that act would have exceeded 60

Under the act of 1894 the average duty in 1896 was 40 per cent, but this was with sugar at only 40 cents, and tobacco. station. liquors, faces and silks considerably less than either in the act of 1890 or the proposed bill. Unquestionably the average outy under the act of 1894, if sugar, to acco, figuors, silks and laces had borne the same duty as in the proposed bill, would have reached at least 47 per cent The average duty under the proposed law, ries, is estimated by the experts at 57 per Deduct sugar and the average duty

would be 54 per cent; deduct sugar, tobacco; and spirits and the average duty would be 49.85 per cent, and deduct sugar, tobacco, spirits, and wool and the average duty would be only 41 per cent. The report of the Committee on Ways and Means has set forth the fact that the pending bill has not only restered the provisions of the tariff of 1890, as to reciprocity, under which our trade was successfully enlarged, but has extended that policy. As the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Hopkins), who has specially devoted his attention to this subject, will hereafter explain in detail what is proto him

The inquiry naturally arises as to what will be the probable annual revenue derived from the proposed tariff revision in case it should become law; the only solid basis from which we can draw inferences is that supplied by the estimate of Mr. Evans. the statistician, who has made the comparative statement, that on the basis of he importations of the fiscal year 1896, the pending bill enacted into law would yield an increase of revenue of about \$113,-000,000, the details of which are given in the report of the Committee of Ways and Means.

The committee estimate, after making liberal reductions, that for the first year, in case the bill should become a law by May 1, the additional revenue would reach \$75. 000,000, and that for every week thereafter in case its passage should be deferred, there would have to be a deduction of from one to two million dollars for wool. sugar and other articles on speculation to avoid the increased duties. For the second year it is believed the proposed bill would vield \$100,000,000 of increased revenue It must be obvious, from any point of view, that prompt action by the two houses of Congress is indispensable to secure the revenue which the pending till is intended to yield. The exigency is an unusual one The people, without regard to party affiliawaits our final decision. With this great question of adequate revenue to carry on the Government settled favorably by such an adjustment of duties as will restore to our own people what has been surrendered during the past four with restored confidence in the future. there is reason to believe that gradually and surely there will come back to us the great prosperity which we enjoyed in the decade prior to 1893, and which the greatest of living English statistici strikingly eulogized when he said in 1892 history any parallel to the progress of the United States in the (then) last ten years

Two Good, Long Words.

The following interesting statement appears in the report of the Jefferson Laboratory of President Eliot, of Harvard Prof. Jackson, with Mr. M. H. Ittner, inished the work upon parabromel trotoluol, which was begun last year an continued with Mr. H. A. Torrey the study of the derivatives of chloranil, obtaining results which throw some light upon the constitution of the oxide of dibenzoyldi enlordimethoxyquinone."-New York Tribune.

New York's l'rivate Fish Pond.

There is probably no more interestin sight in New York city than the new Aquarium. It is hard to imagine how there can be any sight more interesting than the spectacle of an intelligent city spending \$40,000 a year for the mainance of seventy-four plain, ordinary everyday fishes, for which it has erected a domicile costing more than \$200,000. Nothing equal to this can be seen in any other city, and yet the park commissioners who have charge of this exhibition complain whenever it is intimated that their Aquarium is not a success .- New York THE QUESTION OF SHEATHING. Mysterious Infuences in the Navy

Department Against It. To the Editor of The Times.

About four months ago the United States guidoot Castine returned from the South Atlantic station, bringing the men of the squadron whose term of service was about to expire. The day to return had been named when it was discovered that the bottom of the vessel was badly pitted nd it was placed in the drydock at the Norfolk navy yard. Twenty-eight stee plates were removed and new ones sub stituted, consuming six weeks' time and the compensation of its personnel from commanding officer to apprentice; a great incident suggests that very many of the steel vessels of all the great nations, ex-cept America, have their bottoms sheathed with wood and coppered to prevent pitting and marine growth, at a saving of many thousands of dollars per annum, as well as the preservation of the lives of the Chief Naval Constructor Philip structor in the world, has exercised his influence from the building of the Chi-cago, Atlanta and Boston, the first vessels the new Navy, to have the bottom

There is a powerful influence in the Navy, said to be located by some in the g of Ordnance, that has defeated the pair, as stated, in the interest of so-called have proved, and will continue to prove,

in volume two, of "Transactions of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers," page 180, Commodore W. T. Sampson, chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, says. "I have seen the coppered bottom of a ship more completely covered with marine growth than any steel ship I ever saw in dock." "I have seen the coppered bottom of a cruising ship in the West Indies completely covered with sea-weed three feet long." The commodors nitted to state that the moment the foulbottomed, coppered vessel was under way the growth referred to was swept off clean by the passage of the vessel through the water. He says: "Sheathing adds to the first cost of the ship; it is a added weight always to be carried, and reduction of speed, as compared with the same ship unsheathed.

 Subsequently, the buil, while still on the ways, should receive several coats of adherent paint, which can have menths to become hard as possible, especial attention being given to the waterline por tion, both as to freedom from oxide and subsequent painting." In reply, Commodore Hichborn said: "Referring to Capt. Sampson's remarks on sheathing, I need only say that the majority of those wh have given this matter special attention ashere to the belief that sheathing is desirable for all vesuels whose base of opera tions is far removed from drydocks. It is by no means claimed that sheathing absolutely prevents fouling-it is merely an important agency in preventing excessive fouling due to long periods out of dock, when docks are inaccessible, or the ser vice upon which the vessel is employed is such as to preclude withdrawal from her

It was remarked very soon after the new Secretary of the Navy was appointed that the hostile influence is being exerted, or an effort is being made to exert it, upon him to the prejudice of the Bureau of Construction and Repair. To one in the foretop, it appears that the Bureau of exert its surplus ability in lightening turrets and top-hamper of naval vessels and leave the matter of construction to the proper bureau and the officers es pecially educated for that purpose.

In its reports for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1889, and June 30, 1891, the Bureau of Construction and Repair discossed the subject of sheathing, asserting its conviction of the great economy to be obtained by adopting the system for future constructions intended for foreign cruis ing. Experience has confirmed the conviction, and it appears incontestable that the cost of fitting sheathing to the botton of our cruisers would be more than saved during a single three years' emise, by the decrease in coal consumption and docking bills, without considering the question of ability to maintain the speed for which The prejudice, for it is nothing else

sheathing, has been so great that of all the new vessels not one has had its bottom sheathed and coppered. The first departure from the established practice, has been the recent construction of six composite gunboats. will be of much greater value and much less expense by reason of having wooden bottoms, coppered. Steel vessels are supposed to be docked for cleaning twice each year, but they cannot maintain their speed for one month after leaving the dock, nor their economy of coal coas tion. That fact, added to the cost of docking, which is excessive on foreign stations, should, of itself, be sufficient to change the American practice. Were sheathed they would not be compelled to go into foreign docks, not any docks, until after the end of a three vents' cruise.

It may be remarked that at the time of the Construction Bureau's 1889 report recommending sheathing, the practice wa not largely followed abroad. Since the Since then it has been very much extended, especially as to recent English constructions. Had America adopted sheathing seven years ago it would have led other nations. Now it can but follow, but that does not less the value of sheathing. The methods of sheathing have been much simplified and cheapened by experience. Formerly it was believed essential to fit two course of planks, but with the best modern practice there is but one thickness, at r It is to be hoped that in the light of

experience the Bureau of Construction will not meet with such opposition in the future as in the past, and that cruising vessels of our Navy will have their bed toms sheathed and coppered. try it on the Kearsarge, Kentucky, Illin Alabama, and Wisconsin, now if not upon all, upon four of them, three not let the Chief Naval Constructor build the results of his studies and experience and demonstrate, at this late day, who right or who wrong? He has visited the dockyards of all the greatest nations and made a thorough study of the usefulnes If sheathing should not prove a success

as it undoubtedly would, it could be easily removed, and the people, who have cheer fully paid the many millions of dollars on new Navy has cost, and who are vitally interested in this question, and desire the trial, would be satisfied. If the naval itles will not try the expe of their own volltion, Congress, in the next appropriation for naval construc tion, might well provide that the vesse ropriated for be sheathed with wood and coppered. Everyone who has grown od near a seaport is aware that the thin sheets of copper with which the bottoms of wooden merchant vessels are covered keeps them out of dock for year at a time, and that fungus and other marine growth never attaches to the WILLIAM HOWARD MILLS.

A Great Truth. Wallace-Why is it you always bet o Hargreaves-It is so much easier to QUAY FOUGHT A PANTHER

The Senator's Battle With a Hungry Beast in Florida Woods,

San Lucie, Fla., March 22, Senator Quay left here Saturday morning for Washngton, greatly pleased with his reprentice od play, as he calls it, here. He caught a fine tarpon Friday after a hard tussie, and wound up the day with a little wild animal adventure.

After they had finished securing the tarpon the party landed one mile south of the Senator's house, and it being late, they started to walk up through the low hunmock that borders the river, though as a usual thing few care to go through it at night. The big turpon was carried on a pole by Seminoie Jim, Mr. Quay's guide and pole by Semin attendant, and Sam Burk

They had not proceeded over 200 yards when, as they were passing under a big live onk, an unearthly scream was heard and a dark body dropped down upon the hed bearer of the fish, and begin taking huge mouthfuls of the tarpon, growling angrily all the while. The men were thrown down by the unimal's weight, and were too astonis to know what had happened.

"Much d-- panther," shouted Jim, as he saw the beast's eyes like coals of fire glistening in the dark near him and he picked up a big light wood kno t and scarted for it. Burk drew his big fish knife, while nator drew his little pocket revolver and began blazing away. The shots only enraged the beast and it turned to spring on him.

Jim jumped forward and brought his heavy club down on the animal's skuil with a thud that almost stunned it. It sprawfed down, but in a moment was up again and ready to fight, snarling and showing its teeth. Senator Quay fired several shots and then Jim again; it. Burk got a chance to give it a lab with Jim managed to get in a good blow and knocked the beast over. Then snatch ing the knife from Burk, he dashed in, his wild Seminole blood up, and by rare, good luck inflicted the death blow upon the screaming, struggling animal without getting hurt.

It was a good-sized male panther, but in poor condition, being appost famished The smeil of the fresh fish is doubtless what tempted the attack, as this is the first time such a thing has happened in this section, especially with near. The hide will be stuffed and taken to Beaver Falls, to adorn Mr. Quay's li

ACCOUNTS SAID TO BE SHORT, Reason for the Disappearance of a

Building and Loan Treasurer. Chicago, March 22.-President Julius Brieske, of the Christopher Coum-bus Building and Loan Association, said last night that David J. Sachsel, treasurer of the concern, had left Chicago, and that his accounts were being investigated by a committee of the stockholders. President Brieske declared there ficial would be called on to explain why from \$40,000 to \$60,000 of the tion's funds was not in sight.

Mr. Sachsel appears to have left Chicago on Tuesday last. His wife said hart night some money. As soon as his absence was noticed the stockholders appointed a com-mittee of ten to look over his books. This committee, according to the president, is unable to locate from \$40,000 to \$60, \$100,000. The president said Attorney Koch would apply to the courts today for a receiver to take charge of the affairs of

The Christopher Columbus Boilding and Loan Association has a membership of 600 or 700 persons, nearly all of whom are poor people, who have been investing their savings in the association.

MATE RILEY'S STORY.

Badly Treated by Spanish Soldiers While Ashore at Havana. Baltimore, Md., March 22 -Second Mate

Riley, of the schooner Mary Jenness, which arrived in Baltimore yesterday from Apalachicola, was a victim of Spanish feeling against Americans when his vessel was at the port of Santiago de Cuba in

He says that he was asbore one evening nd tried to be as pleasant as possible with the procession of Spanish soldiers which constantly throngs the streets of the town. When he started to go aboard his diers. Soon two others joined them, and suddenly he was seized and \$2 demanded of him or else he was threatened with a visit to jail. One man took half a dollar out of his pocket in spite of his efforts to prevent them

Suddenly he felt the prick of a knife and then blood began to trickle down his back, causing him to feel faint. He at tacked the soldiers, cleared binself of them and then made a run for his ship, which he reached in safety. For eight days he was incapacitated for duty

GORDY BEING GUARDED.

Confinement Wearing on Alleged Murderer and Confession Expecte Georgetown, Del., March 22.-James M. Gordy is beginning to show the effects of his confinement. He is nervous and un-Sheriff Johnson is still carefully guard-

chances. Outwardly all seems quiet, and no threats of lynching are heard, yet there deep seated feeling against Gordy that demands a speedy trial

ing his prisoner, and proposes to take no

Some people think he is weakening, and when he learns of the chain of evidence which has been forged against him by the State, he may break down and confess

Constable Lynch is still searching for the missing satchels, and has struck a due which he thinks will disclose their whereabouts in a few days. It is expected that their contents will disclose the real motive for the crime, and may contain money or valuables. They are sup-posed to have been hidden in a woods by Gordy somewhere between here and his mother's home, where he was captured Gordy's mother was in town yesterday and visited bim at the jail.

VICTIMS OF HIGH DEGREE.

Grip Epidemic Among the British Aristocracy.

London, March 22. -Lord Salisbury, who has been suffering from influenza for the past few days, has almost entirely recov-

There appears to be an epidemic of in fluenza among the aristocracy, the Earl and Countess of Dudley, Lord Russell, of en, lord chief Justice of England, and Lord Halsbury, lord high chancellor, havng been afflicted with the malady within the last week. All of them, however, are

Death of Mr. Charles Petty. Rockville, Md., March 22.-Mr. Charles Petty, of Montrose, Montgomery county, died at his residence Saturday, in the forty-third year of his life, after a short iness. Mr. Petty was one of the oldest and most prominent public school teachers nthis county, and a very influential member of the Beptist church. Mr. Petty was born in Virginia. He leaves a widow and four children, Mesars. James, Oscar and Charles Petty, and Mrs. Henrietta Kaiser, all of this county.